

Camp Swig Weekend: Personalizing Passover

Redwoods. Rest. Music. Study. Play. Singing. Music. Conversation. Prayer. There will be something for everyone at the first CSZ Congregational Weekend at UAHC Camp Swig in the beautiful Santa Cruz mountains. You are invited to join other CSZ singles and families for a Shabbat weekend of study, rest, inspiration and fun, March 23-25.

The theme of the weekend is "Personalizing Passover: Making the Exodus Our Own." Falling two weeks before Passover begins, this special weekend will focus on the meaning of Passover over the generations and its significance to our lives today. Interactive, creative programs will explore our coming out as Jews and as gay and lesbian people. We will explore the Passover Seder itself and new ways to personalize the seder ritual.

The weekend's program will also include folk dancing, nature hikes, Shabbat workshop and Havdallah, art, and, of course, lots of free time to explore the area. Services will be held in the award-winning, beautiful Jo Naymark Holocaust Memorial chapel. This weekend is

planned as a program for the entire congregation—adults, families and children. A parallel, separate program, under the direction of Kadimah teacher Phyllis Mintzer, will be provided for school-age children. In Sha'ar Zahav—participatory style (and in order to keep costs down), participants will be asked to sign up for one or more of a variety of tasks, including child care.

Cost for the weekend is \$80 for adults, \$65 for children 13-18, \$45 for kids 6-12, \$40 for kids 3-5 and free to children 2 and under. Accommodations include "family units" and cabins with bunk beds. Camp Swig is about one hour away from San Francisco and 75 minutes from Oakland; please indicate on the registration form if you are interested in bus or van transportation if available. A registration form with additional details is enclosed.

The registration deadline is February 23—please send in your registration as early as possible. We hope that this will be the first of a new, annual tradition at Sha'ar Zahav—join us for a wonderful weekend!

The Camp Swig Weekend is sponsored by the Adult Education and Religious School Committees. For more information, please contact Lin Turner through the synagogue office.

Jewish Children's Summer Camp

It's not too early to think about a summer of fun and growth and a special kind of Jewish learning for your child. The application process for sending Bay Area youngsters to Jewish summer residential camps is now under way. Applications for Camps Arazim, Moshava, Ramah, Swig, Tawonga, and Young Judaea are available from the camps themselves or through Rabbi Kahn.

Financial aid in the form of "camper-ships" is available from the Bureau of Jewish Education (which administers funds on behalf of the Jewish Community Federation Newhouse Fund) as well as from the camps themselves—and under a streamlined process, only one application form needs to be filled out. All information provided is kept strictly confidential, with applications processed anonymously. The BJE's Scholarship Committee, which includes representatives from each of the camps, works hard to ensure that children are able to have this special and unforgettable summer camp experience.

The deadline for financial-aid applications is April 6. It is best to apply to the camps early, however, as they fill up faster every year. Contact Rabbi Kahn or the camp of your choice this month, and begin to plan for your child's best summer ever.



Mark your calendars for this year's
Purim Extravaganza

on Saturday night, March 10
Details to follow in next month's Forward

Growth and Participation

It feels wonderful to be president of such a vital synagogue. We recently reached a new milestone—we now have over 500 members at CSZ! Over 55 of those members are children. Of the adults, there are almost equal numbers of men and women. Only a few years ago, our membership numbered 250.

With this rapid growth, many questions face us concerning our future. Is our building adequate for our needs? Do we have the resources to educate our children? Do we have enough staff? Can we continue to provide the programming and services members look for when they join Sha'ar Zahav?

Our Long-Range Planning Committee is hard at work synthesizing the data it has received from the survey that most of you have completed. (For those of you who haven't filled it out yet, there is still time. Please get it back to the committee as soon as possible, so that you, too, may be heard. If you need a survey please call Tiela Chalmers at 431-4312.)

No matter what the surveys show, there is one thing that is very clear. The vast majority of Sha'ar Zahavniks want us to remain a synagogue rooted in volunteer activity. I spoke of this during my installation remarks last June and I want to emphasize it again now. As our numbers grow, we need more and more people to help with our committee work and other activities. It is unreasonable to expect the same group of people to be able to provide programs and services for an ever-growing membership.

I beseech those of you who are not currently working on an activity or program to turn to the page in the *Forward* where our committees are listed. Find a committee whose work interests you and take the initiative to telephone the chair of the committee to offer your help. This need not be a lifetime commitment! There are roles which take as little as an hour a month, or if you wish, there are of course opportunities to spend even more time. Currently, the Social Action and Newsletter Committees are particularly interested in new members.

Let's all contribute to Sha'ar Zahav. Through our volunteerism, we make the synagogue our own and feel proud of our work and our place in the lesbian

and gay community. May we continue to grow and work together from strength to strength.

—Eric Keitel



...And What Are You Doing To Save the World?

CSZ has a reputation for our activism regarding social justice issues. The Social Action Committee has only a few members and we know that many of you are involved in other activities that bring this honor to our congregation. We would like to recognize that work. What work for social justice have you or others in the congregation done lately that has not been recognized? Is your paid or volunteer work dedicated to making the world a better place? Are you involved with some other worthwhile organizations? We would like to publicize the good works of members of Sha'ar Zahav. If you know someone whose work for social justice should be recognized, call Lisa Katz at 285-4934.

Torah Chanting

An eight-session workshop in chanting from the Torah according to the Masoretic trope symbols will be held at the Berkeley Hillel (2736 Bancroft Way, 845-6420), beginning on Thursday, February 8, from 7:30 to 9 pm.

The class will include an introduction to the history and musical significance of cantillation, the rituals associated with the reading of the Torah, and trope systems for the Haftarat and Megillot. At the conclusion of the course, students will have the opportunity to chant Torah at services. Prerequisite: ability to sight-read the Hebrew alphabet. Class size will be limited to 15. The class will be given by Carol Delton, cantorial soloist and educator at Temple Sinai, Oakland.

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published 11 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$12/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*. All material is subject to editing; material will not be returned.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Alita Rosenfeld & Howard Blechman, co-chairs, Shelley Adler, Leonard Brill, and Lane Schickler (general editorial and production), Michael Bettinger (photographer), Rick Wilson (advertising coordinator), Allen Brandstein, Frank Hyman, Alex Ingersoll, Hal Podgur, Sam Thal and Eli Weinstein (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Mouse Type Inc., and printed by Lou Greene.

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the second Monday of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

Women's Chavurah

East Bay Potluck

Attention, women! Here's another opportunity to meet each other at a potluck on Saturday, February 17, at the home of Shelley and Gabriele, 2431 Burlington St. below Oz (aka the Mormon Temple) in the hills of Oakland, 482-5967.

The evening will begin with Havdalah at 6:30 pm, followed by dinner. If your last name starts with the following, please bring:

- A-E, beverage;
- F-L, main dish;
- M-R, salad or hors d'oeuvres;
- S-Z, dessert.

Directions from San Francisco: Take the Bay Bridge to Highway 580, eastbound. Follow signs to Hayward. Exit at Fruitvale Avenue going straight two short blocks. Turn left on Champion. Continue uphill past a 7-Eleven on right. Champion becomes Lincoln. Continue uphill approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ miles on Lincoln. When you see Ravenwood Street, slow down to turn right onto Burlington Street. Seventh house on the right, 2431.

From Berkeley: Take Ashby up past the Claremont Hotel to Highway 13 toward Hayward. Exit Joaquin Miller/Lincoln Avenue. Make left turn (50 ft.) to Lincoln, right onto Lincoln (past temple, Greek orthodox church). Turn left on Burlington, one block past Alita Street.

SF L/G Film Festival

Frameline is now accepting entries for the 14th San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, June 15-24. Held each year during San Francisco's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Celebration, the festival brings together the best in feature, documentary and short films and video works by and about lesbians and gay men. This, the world's largest and most respected annual screening of its kind, is sponsored by Frameline, a nonprofit media arts organization, to develop and promote the production, exhibition and appreciation of lesbian and gay films and videotapes.

Awards will be presented to outstanding works in several categories. Formats accepted include 35mm, 16mm and Super-8 films; NTSC three-quarter inch and one-half inch VHS video cassettes. The deadline for entries is March 31. For more information and entry forms contact Frameline, P.O. Box 14792, San Francisco, CA 94114, or call 861-5245.

Shabbat Morning Minyan

Beginning on Saturday, February 10, CSZ will have a "Shabbat morning minyan." To be held on the second Saturday of every month, the service will be led by members of the congregation who will share responsibility for leading, music, Torah readings and *derashot*. The minyan will be in addition to our regular Shabbat morning service on the last Saturday of the month. Many members have expressed an interest in more frequent Saturday morning services and we are pleased to be able to hold them. The success of this service depends on the continuing involvement of members in leading the service. Frank Masson is the coordinator for this service; if you are interested in participating in the leadership of a Shabbat morning service, please call him at 832-0411. Our shabbat morning services are intimate, lively and spiritually satisfying; we hope that you will join us on the second and last Saturdays of the month at 10:30 am.

Tiyul and Picnic

Everyone is invited to join the Israel Chavurah for a *tiyul* (hike) and picnic to celebrate the new year for trees, Tu B'Shevat. The day will be Sunday, February 11. We will meet at 11 am at the Pan Toll State Park Headquarters parking lot near Mt. Tamalpais.

The park is approximately 40 minutes from the Golden Gate Bridge. Take 101 North to the second exit past the tunnel, Mill Valley/Shoreline Highway (Highway 1). Follow Shoreline in the direction of Muir and Stinson Beaches. Turn right onto Panoramic Highway. At the intersection of Muir Woods Road and Sequoia Valley Road, keep going straight forward, following signs towards Mt. Tam. Continue past Mountain Home and Bootjack picnic areas. About one-half mile past Bootjack is the Pan Toll parking lot.

There are various levels of hikes from that point. Remember to pack a lunch. Any questions, please call Ron Lezell at 824-4449. See you there.

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CSZ Weddings?

For a long time, I have avoided calling lesbian and gay ceremonies of sacred commitment "weddings" and our relationships as "marriage." Instead, I have preferred to use the Hebrew term *kiddushin*. *Kiddushin* literally means "sanctification" but the Talmudic meaning was "marriage." Nonetheless, I am much more comfortable calling the ceremonies I officiate at for gay and lesbian couples *kiddushin* rather than "weddings."

There is a principle in *halachah* which is called "imitating the nations" (*chukat ha-goyim*). Thus, a synagogue should not look like a church. I have occasionally expanded this principle to our situation—lesbian and gay people need not imitate everything that non-gay people do. On the other hand (did you think it would be so easy?), various religious traditions reflect the particular expression of underlying human needs and values. Thus, while a synagogue should not "look like a church," both churches and synagogues are sacred spaces and are used to create and enhance our spiritual awareness, and so may share architectural and other features in common without necessarily being imitations of one another.

My resistance to using the term "weddings" in this context has several components. First, marriage is licensed by the state and the state has yet to legally recognize gay and lesbian unions. Nevertheless, the state has, occasionally, taken detrimental action against those who have participated in gay and lesbian "weddings." Thus, my refusal to call our ceremonies marriages is both a legal caution and an explicit reminder of our continuing social invisibility. Second, I am ambivalent about the institution of marriage. I worry that we are somehow going to absorb the patriarchal, sexist and oppressive aspects of marriage, which exists both in Judaism and the larger culture. Finally, I wonder if there is not an element of internalized homophobia present.

My colleague Janet Marder was a valuable source of guidance for me when we first discussed this question several years ago. To quote: "Gay and lesbian relationships are as worthy of public recognition and acceptance as

non-gay relationships *and deserve no less*; and the people and relationships *are* different and need not be exactly alike." These words have served as my standard ever since.

Working with couples who wish to affirm and celebrate their commitment, I find that most wish to explicitly appropriate and recover the traditional Jewish symbols of marriage: wine, *chuppah* (canopy), rings, *ketubah* (marriage contract), breaking the glass and others. Freed from their heterosexist and sexist origins, most aspects of the traditional Jewish wedding ceremony become most appropriate ways of marking and honoring lesbian and gay commitments in a Jewish covenantal manner. Having initially reconsidered the ceremony from a lesbian/gay perspective, I have since come to use the virtually identical ceremony for non-gay couples who ask me to officiate at their ceremonies. They, too, seek a Jewishly authentic religious ceremony which is egalitarian, traditional, non-patriarchal and inclusive. The only difference is that for these ceremonies, I also complete and sign the marriage license.

If lesbian and gay relationships are not exactly the same as non-gay ones, then our ceremonies need not be limited to the historically recognized customs and texts. I have grown more open to innovation and alternative rituals and activities which help express, sanctify and encourage the nature of the commitment we are celebrating. For some, the structure of the traditional ceremony has too many sexist overtones to be recoverable; for others, reading the Unity Prayer or another communal act helps emphasize the continuing connection to extended family and community even as the couple's commitment is being affirmed. Here, too, I find that we are creating a *minhag Sha'ar Zahav*, a CSZ style of practice which is informed by a lesbian and gay sensibility but is available and meaningful for everyone who shares these values. Perhaps, too, it is time to consider the appropriate rituals to celebrate and affirm the commitments of our important friendships and our extended family groups and other relationships.

After the defeat of Proposition S, the

domestic partners law in the November election, I realized that we cannot wait to celebrate and affirm and sanctify our relationships. Celebrating our commitments in the presence of family, friends and community is no substitute for equal rights and equal access. Yet we also cannot allow the general society to determine the validity and meaning of our most sacred commitments. I now realize that there has been an element of protection for non-gay sensibilities in my avoidance of "wedding" in addition to my own concerns about its associations. While we continue to push in the wider community for full legal and social recognition for our lives and our commitments, let's continue to lift up and recognize and celebrate our relationships, unions, marriages, *kiddushin*.

P.S. Call me if you want to set the date.

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Anniversaries

- 10 Robert Nacamulli & Lorraine Locke-Nacamulli
- 14 Stacey Shuster & Joan Lefkowitz
- 14 Sharone Abramowitz & Nadine Rosenthal
- 23 Luana Willis & Yael Silverberg-Willis

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Elie Wiesel Speaks on Gay and Lesbian Rights

The following remarks were given by Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel on November 5, 1989 in New York City at the Eighth Annual Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner.

My good friend Congressman Green, friends:

Some of you came up to me earlier to personally thank me for being here.

In doing so, actually they reflected a certain pleasant surprise to see me here—and I understand. Because, probably they must have read one or two or three of my writings; and I am a student of the Bible, a student of mysticism, and therefore they must have known that I come from a very religious, Orthodox background with some Puritan undertones and overtones. And they were surprised. What are you doing here?

They need not be surprised. True, in our Orthodox background, in the Bible, in the Torah, you don't fare too well. We have to tell each other the truth and the truth is that in fact the Bible is not at all tender to you.

But those who study the Bible carefully and deeply know that there are innumerable laws in the Bible that simply are there to be in the Book, but never to be implemented.

What I find, rather, in our ancient tradition, is the lesson that we are all equal. Never have I learned at any time that there is one group of persons superior to another because of their color, because of their race, because of their creed, or because of their personal choices. We are all equally responsible for one another.

What I have learned, therefore, is that the worst sin is to inflict shame and/or humiliation on anyone else for whatever reason.

I must tell you this evening, listening and looking, I must confess: I have rarely witnessed a scene that I have seen here tonight. I have rarely seen an audience as warm, as generous, as receptive, and as thirsty for understanding and compassion.

Therefore, it is normal that I should be here.

It is normal for a person with my background to be here to tell you that those who believe in oppression include everybody. Those who are bigots do not stop at classes, at races, or again, at gays

and lesbians. Those who hate you hate me. Those who hate, hate everybody.

Those who hate Jews will hate blacks; and those who hate blacks will hate people simply because they talk differently or because they believe something that they refuse to believe. Hate is contagious. Hate does not know any boundaries. And hate does not believe any explanations.

Those who wanted to isolate you in the past, and too often they succeeded, they are committing sins: sins against society; sins against humanity; and against creation as such.

No one has the right not to allow you to acquire the dignity, the respect, and the self-respect to which we are all entitled—all of us.

So, why should I not be here to speak to you about self-respect and about civil rights that must apply to every single segment of our population and to every area of human endeavors? Gay, lesbian, black, white, Chinese, Koreans—we are all human beings.

I have seen in my lifetime the consequences of the opposing views when they dominated the scene. I have seen the Jews (naturally, being always the first victims), and so many others, including gays, in those places of darkness, silence and fire.

So I would surely support any attempt, any plan, any project, imagined or envisioned by any group, to say that human rights and civil rights apply to me, to my wife, to my son, to my family, to my people, to gays, to lesbians.

We have no right to limit freedom. We have no right to limit respect. Because anyone who begins will not stop.

German Jews

CSZ member and Northern California Jewish Bulletin Features Editor Winston Pickett will speak on "German Jews: Why Are They Still There?" at Shabbat services on February 2. Winston recently traveled to Germany under the auspices of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation as part of a Jewish press delegation and will describe his meetings with and impressions of the Jewish community there.

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained several new members and friends in January. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Jane Bailowitz

Deborah Hamolsky, Toby Dyner and newborn Rachel

Beverly Hewett

Caroline Isaacs and Randy Mayers

Eric Kamm

Barry Klezmer

Duane Puryear

Catherine Stetler

Linthicum (Lin) Turner

Lyn Unger and Elizabeth (Betsy) McCall

Judith Wolfe

New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.



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Chanukah Party Report and Thanks

This year's Chanukah party was hailed as one of the best yet. The music, graciously provided once again by Randy Shiller, was varied and seemed to fit the enthusiastic crowd's high-energy mood. And there were plenty of latkes to go around (and around and around) this year (*quelle surprise*)! The silent auction was intriguing and laid out with flair. There was plenty of room for everyone. The tropical decor added a nice touch as did the far-out attire worn by some of our more colorful congregants.

This year's success could never have been pulled off had it not been for the tremendous volunteer support. I cannot possibly list everyone who helped in some way as many pitched in at the last minute to set or clean up, but I would like to note that we had a wonderful blend of newer and more experienced members helping out.

Let me take a moment to offer special thanks to some people that were caught in the act. To the 25 latke bakers, theirs was a job well done. Some of our newer members helped out in this department including Pam and Daniel Eiselman, Peter Rosenfeld, Rose Katz, Patrick Murgan, Ron Wilmot, Bob Coffman, Lisa Hirsch, Loma Olson, Lynn

Bravewomon, Beth Berkelhammer, and Lina Zerberini.

Thanks to Robin Leonard and Leslie Bergson who provided guidance and therapy sessions to yours truly throughout the planning. To our phone maven, Nancy-Carol Adler who rounded up our fantastic set-up crew. The silent auction this year was outstanding, thanks to David Stein and Alex Ingersoll, who went the extra mile—not only lining up the donations and running a very smooth operation—but by making a fabulous visual display. Let us not forget Rosalinda Del Moral who organized the food (the kisses were a nice touch!) and helped in many other ways.

Appreciation to our master of ceremonies Eric Keitel as well as Shirley Liberman, Irene Ogus, Lee Marrow, Larry Wexler, David Nahmod, Susan Stahl, Sanford Friedman, Don Albert, Bill Ashley-Dobbin, Paul Cohen, Richard Inlander, Ron Lezell, Steve Elman, Jon Mesinger, Allen Brandstein, Mike Erceg, Lisa Katz, Susan Unger, Ali Cannon, Scott Mezistrano and Diana Bookbinder. A special thanks to a new member, Eric Kamm, who was instrumental in many areas including the schlepping to and from CSZ. Once again, thanks to all.

—Marc Mencher

Children's Chanukah Party

On December 23, Roberta Achtenberg and Mary Morgan hosted this year's children's Chanukah celebration at their Hill Street home. The party was attended by at least 50 children, parents and relatives and friends. The kids were entertained by arts and crafts, the telling of the story of Chanukah, and Chanukah songs. Rabbi Kahn arrived in time to say the ceremonial prayer over the candle lighting, hold a few babies and schmooze with Sha'ar Zahav parents.

Finally, a special donation enabled gifts to be purchased and distributed to all the children. Overall, the party proved to be a good time for all, and a nice way to have a congregational family celebration!

—Joan Gelfand

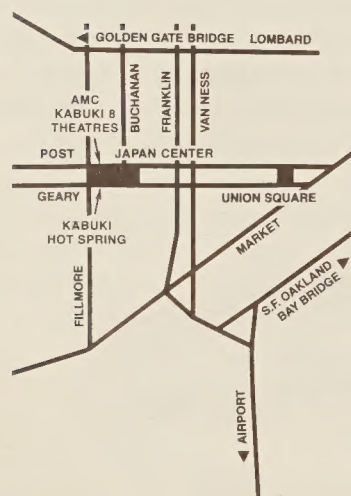
Our Aging Parents

Coping with aging parents can be perplexing. It may be especially confusing and painful to us gay/lesbian children. Altering roles as we find ourselves parenting our parents, taking on new responsibilities, and changing family dynamics are some of the complexities that you may be facing right now or expect to experience in the future. Being gay or lesbian adds additional facets to these complexities but is never covered in discussions on aging parents.

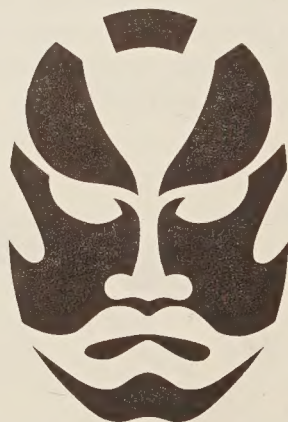
On Sunday, February 4, at 2 pm at CSZ, the Education Committee presents an opportunity to explore and discuss these complexities and our concerns as we face them.

This program is designed to examine our unique needs as well as those of our parents. Leading the afternoon program will be two experienced licensed social workers, Judy Schwartz, director of Marin Jewish Family and Children's Services, and Eileen Goldman, director of senior services at the San Francisco JFCS. Both have extensive experience in the field of family and senior services.

You are encouraged to bring your own questions. If you wish additional information, please contact Bill Goldstein at 793-4283.



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Latke Luau, II Photo Album

- Above—Richard Inlander and Ben Schalit
- Below—Allen Harris and Florence Nacamulli
- Top left—Candle lighting ceremony
- Left—Larry Wexler and Kirk Hinman
- Bottom left—Time to eat!
- Photos by Michael Bettinger



January Va'ad Report

The January Va'ad meeting began with the customary call to order and check in. Leslie Bergson led our D'var Torah as Rabbi Kahn was out of town at a rabbinic conference. Referring to this week's Torah portion on the end of Jacob's life, she spoke of the parallels between issues in the Bible and in our congregational life.

December minutes were approved with corrections, and then Richard Inlander gave the treasurer's report on behalf of Ben Schalit, who was ill. He explained various items in the monthly financial statement, notified us about members who are no longer in good standing, spoke about reinvestment decisions, reported on our approximately \$5,000 profit from the Chanukah party, and answered questions.

In his president's report, Eric Keitel informed the Va'ad of donations and bequests which CSZ has recently received, and read a thank-you letter from the AIDS Food Bank. He asked for and received Va'ad approval for the five-member election committee selected for the 1990-91 elections. There was some discussion about how we count abstentions in our votes in terms of our conformance to Robert's Rules of Order. Eric ended his report by requesting and receiving Va'ad approval to proceed with preparation of a new Haggadah.

Jenny Helbraun, office manager, went over a report she had prepared on our rental income. She took corrections to the calendar, and informed the Va'ad that Rabbi Dan Dorfman's class, Introduction to Judaism, Part I, will be starting on February 6—not January 30 as reported in the JGF.

Gail Friedlander reported on the Mini-Advance scheduled for February 3. The morning will be devoted to Torah study and a workshop on conflict resolution. The afternoon will focus on the High Holy Days—specifically whether we can/will/should make changes in our High Holy Days services which will enable more people from the community to attend. The day will end with a Havdallah service.

Marc Mencher, Chanukah party coordinator, invited comments and feedback. Everyone agreed (or had heard second-hand if they weren't there) that it was lots of fun, people mingled well and it was comfortable for newcomers, the

music and dancing were great, and it was really a bargain. Some of us had heard comments to the effect that the latkes could have been better. Everyone expressed their thanks for the volunteers who made it happen.

In response to various committee requests, the Va'ad authorized funds in support of the following projects: bulletin boards both upstairs and in the oneg room to display the work of Kadimah students, data entry of the Long-Range Planning questionnaire, additional Friday night prayerbooks, additional inventory for the gift shop, and the Israeli tour of the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

Ron Lezell, chair of the Israel Chavurah, spoke about AIDS research and health care in Israel, where funding and education are practically non-existent. Publicity for the quilt will be a major factor in helping the Israeli AIDS Task Force to change this.

Richard Inlander, chair of the Gift Shop Committee, spoke about how the gift shop has done since its November opening. We did a fair amount of business before Chanukah, and will be stocking up for Pesach. The gift shop needs volunteers in order to maintain its hours, and Richard asked all of our help in recruiting people (821-4134).

Ann Biderman of the membership committee presented eight new individuals and three families, and they were unanimously voted in as members. After meeting evaluation we adjourned just before 9:30 pm with the singing of Oseh Shalom.

—Recorder



☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Birthdays

5	Ami Zusman
7	Mark Mendelow
7	Ida Kuluk
8	Sue Saperstein
9	Mark Freeman
10	Joshua Piazza
10	Audrey Adelson
11	Robert Stern
11	Gelfand Simone
12	Joan Lefkowitz
13	Howard Blechman
14	Irene Ogus
14	Ron Wolberg
14	Susan Douglass
14	Susan Unger
15	Russell Discher
17	Barry Siegel
17	Yael Silverberg-Willis
18	Robert Coffman
21	Sandra Lofchie
22	Gail Friedlander
22	Susan Tubbesing
23	Hal Heller
25	Alex Ingersoll
25	Nathan Nahouraii
25	Earl Diskin
25	Aaron Frankel
26	Laura Susan Stuchinsky
27	Leila Raim
28	Bruce Katz
28	Steven Gaynes

Oneg Sponsor

During December an oneg was sponsored by the following generous person:

- 29 Daniel Chesir, to commemorate the yahrzeits of his father and sister

All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an oneg is \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.

Our advertisers support the Forward.
Please tell them where you saw their ads.

Condolences

We at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav extend our sympathy to the following members who have suffered a recent loss.

To **Phyllis and George Mintzer** on the loss of their aunt, Ella Fisher.

To **Leslie Bergson** on the loss of her friend, Rennie Marianacchio.

To **Allen Harris** on the loss of his friend, Jamie Ricciardelli.

To **Alan Craig** on the loss of his grandfather, Harry Goldberg.

To **Judy Schwartz** on the loss of her grandmother, Jeannette Behrendt.

Yahrzeits

- 2 Eleanor Pranke, grandmother of Dan Bellm
- 2 Stephen Walters, member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
- 3 Leon Childress, father of Joyce Amburgey
- 4 Bette Friedman, mother of Jeff Friedman
- 7 (Shevat 12) Clare Schmidt, grandmother of Don Albert
- 10 Mildred Schoenberg, grandmother of Johanna Johnson
- 11 Marilyn Epstein Levine, sister of Nancy Epstein
- 14 Gary Starliper, lover of Rick Crane
- 14 Barbara Rosenblum, lover of Sandy Butler and member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
- 14 (Shevat 19) Abraham Hoffman, father of Arlene Hoffman
- 14 Jacob Weiss, grandfather of Lonnie Weiss
- 14 Anne Herman Shapiro, mother of Marilyn Braiger
- 14 (Shevat 19) Abraham Bettinger, father of Michael Bettinger
- 15 Allan Ellis, lover of Edward Pollock and member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
- 15 Yetta Shuchat, grandmother of David Stein
- 15 Winifred Gutterman, mother of Bob Gutterman
- 15 Ben Shuchat, grandfather of David Stein
- 16 (Shevat 21) Jonathan Halpern, friend of Jonathan Schwartz
- 17 (Shevat 22) Minnie Wiseman, grandmother of Jonathan Funk
- 18 (Shevat 23) Morris Richshafer, uncle of Sherie Ann Koshover
- 19 Fannie Fichelson, grandmother

- of Kipp Leyser
- 19 Ruben Levinson, uncle of Lonnie Weiss
- 21 Steven Richter, member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
- 22 Birdie Fay Raff, grandmother of Ellen Peskin
- 23 Asher Liberman, father of Shirley Liberman
- 23 Abraham Lieberman, father of Sharon Simma Lieberman
- 24 (Shevat 29) Emilia Nacamulli,

- mother of Robert and Steven Nacamulli
- 24 (Shevat 29) Catherine Albert, grandmother of Don Albert
- 26 Joseph Fichelson, grandfather of Kipp Leyser
- 27 Gertrude Liberman, mother of Shirley Liberman
- 27 Theodore Hirsch, father of Lisa R. Hirsch
- 28 Samuel Dreskin, father-in-law of Barry Siegel

Tristano Palermino

November 18, 1953–November 22, 1989

David Glassberg

August 12, 1952–December 18, 1989

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav mourns the recent deaths of two beloved members, Tristano Palermino and David Glassberg. Tristano and David were a devoted and courageous couple who fought together to raise national consciousness and promote healing in the AIDS epidemic. In July 1988, in a commitment ceremony held at Sha'ar Zahav, they celebrated their love with these vows:

"I will honor you and support you to the best of my ability. I will accept you for who you are and not try to change you. I will be honest and forthright in our relationship, holding its values above all else. I will love you with all my being, facing together whatever life holds for us, during this lifetime and beyond. Our strength is in our mutual vulnerability and love for ourselves, for each other and for the God that shines within."

We remember Tristano's loving and combative spirit: chaining himself to the fence in front of the White House, delivering a letter to Pope John Paul II at Mission Dolores calling for Catholic acceptance of homosexuality, being arrested at the Federal Building with his mother, wearing his bright red boxing gloves at demonstrations to show his resistance to injustice. A social worker and massage therapist, Tristano served as social services director for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, and as an adjunct professor at San Francisco State University's School of Social Work, and later as president of People With AIDS/San Francisco and editor of the *PWA Voice*.

We remember David's wry sense of humor, his vast knowledge of health care and his constant willingness to share what he knew. We remember him as an eloquent speaker—not only in English, but in American Sign Language and Spanish—who offered his skills as a volunteer for the Jewish Family and Children's Services AIDS Project, the UAHC Regional AIDS Committee, Project Inform, the Wedge Project and many others. David delivered a sermon at Sha'ar Zahav in 1988 on the importance of his faith in living with AIDS, and was instrumental in developing and coordinating Sha'ar Zahav's Liturgy for Healing. He was a counseling psychologist, with a master's degree in counseling from Gallaudet College, and served as director of vocational services at Rehabilitation Services of Northern California.

We remember both Tristano and David as teachers and learners, and as deeply spiritual people open to experiencing God through many paths. We remember them talking politics at the kitchen table, exchanging foot massages, playing in the ocean, dancing at the Rawhide, and hiking in Hawaii. We remember their committed, activist approach to their own health and the health of others.

Tristano and David are survived by loving families and friends, and by the dedicated support group who cared for them throughout their illness. We honor Tristano and David by carrying on their unfinished work of teaching and healing. May the memory of these righteous men be for blessing.

—Dan Bellm

Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

AIDS Fund

Ben Schalit, in memory of Tristano Palermino
Ami Zusman, in memory of Tristano Palermino
Ernie Weinstein and Scott Feinstein, in memory of Susan Rainsford
Allen Harris, in memory of Jamie Ricciardelli
Mike Rankin, in memory of Blacksie Webb-Sanders
Donald Abrams, in thanks for Rabbi Kahn's support and caring
Rabbi Richard Sternberger, in honor of the wonderful work CSZ does for people with AIDS
Jonathan Mesinger, in memory of Tristano Palermino
Carol Heller and Annie Larson, in memory of Carol's mother, Alice Florsheim Heller, and in honor of Annie's grandmother, Elvera Maimone Cleaves

Building Fund

Bernard Pechter
Al Baum, in honor of CSZ co-founder, Bernard Pechter
David Stein and Alex Ingersoll, in honor of Ralph Frischman's birthday
Roy E. Simon, in honor of Walt Leiss' 60th birthday

Education Fund

Stephen and Samuel Delroy, in memory of David Delroy

General Fund

David Shaber, in memory of Frieda Shaber
Herbert and Ellen Brosbe, in honor of Gary Sterman
Dr. Edward S. Mack
Jerry Hemstock, in thanks for CSZ's wonderful work at Kaiser Hospital and in loving memory of David Glassberg
Susan Horst, in memory of Joan Graham

Mimi Epstein

David Stein and Alex Ingersoll, in memory of Bob Gutterman's father
Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman, in memory of Bob Goldware's grandfather

Marlee, Neil and Jam Taxy, in honor of their cousin, founding CSZ member Bernard Pechter

Betty Kalis, in memory of Susan Greenspan's mother

Ron Lezell, in honor of Walt Leiss' 60th birthday

Bitachon Fund

Naomi Mann, in honor of Bernard Pechter

Prayerbook Fund

David Stein and Alex Ingersoll, in memory of Tristano Palermino and David Glassberg
Leslie Bergson, in honor of Susan Gelmis, on the occasion of leading her first Sha'ar Zahav service

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Ursula Sherman, in honor of the marriage of Claire Sherman and Ed Anisman
Daniel Chesir and Stefan Rowniak, in memory of Bob Gutterman's father, David Gutterman
Jerry Rosenstein
Richard Sinkoff, in memory of David Glassberg and Tristano Palermino
Donald Abrams, in thanks for Rabbi Kahn's guidance and love
Helen Traeger, in memory of her son, Harvey Levine
Marion Trentman, in appreciation for the post-quake East Bay services

Additional High Holiday Contributions, 5750

Lewis Lehman, Richard Lerner, Ivan Livschitz, John Rosenzweig, Dorothy Salant, Andy Schwartz, Mauri Schwartz, Jay M. Stone.

Office Note

The UAHC AIDS Commission's panel for the Names Project Quilt will be on display in our sanctuary through the month of February. Be sure to come and see it.

Building Improvements

If you have been in the synagogue recently, you may have noticed a few repairs and improvements made over the past few weeks. The front door, which used to close poorly and had protruding metal pieces that stabbed people's shins, has been fixed. Windows in the oneg room and upstairs—painted shut for years—are now able to be opened for ventilation. In addition, new window locks and sashes have been installed.

Because our staircase to the second floor is steep and Kadimah meets upstairs, a second, lower handrail has been installed for the children. Also for safety, the cracked plaster in the vestibule has been taken down (to be replaced when the roof leak is fixed) and plexiglass installed on the breezeway doors.

The next project is the repair of the west outside wall and roof to stop the flooding in the west breezeway. And coming soon: pew cushions.

—Jeffrey Miller, Chair



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2301 MARKET STREET

Naches

Congratulations to **Kate Sharp** and **Alita Rosenfeld** on the birth (December 23, 1989) and brit (December 31, 1989) of their son, Daniel Alexander Rosenfeld-Sharp.

Mazel Tov to **Shelley Adler**, **Sue Weinstein** and their children on the occasion of Shelley's son's (Tahg) Bar Mitzvah in Philadelphia on January 13.

Sibling Notes

Ahavat Shalom (San Francisco)—because of low attendance, but hoping to get new people involved, has suspended Friday night services. We hope our siblings "down the hill" are able to regroup.

Beth Ahavah (Philadelphia)—voted at its annual meeting to join the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Reform Movement). Beth Ahavah joins Beth Chayim Chadashim (LA), Etz Chaim (Miami), Or Chadash (Chicago) and us. Welcome!

Bet Haverim (Atlanta)—has named its newsletter *Hamaagal*, the Circling. Also, it has formed a Rabbi Search Fund Committee to raise money to hire the permanent rabbi it would like to have by the beginning of 5751.

Beth Chayim Chadashim (Los Angeles)—will celebrate its 18th (*chai*) birthday on March 17, by honoring Rev. Troy Perry of the Metropolitan Community Church, who gave BCC support, encouragement and loving guidance during its early days.

Beth Simchat Torah (New York)—will host a Leadership Conference for affiliates of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations over Presidents Day Weekend, February 16–19. Nearly 100 representatives from the United States, Canada, Europe and Israel are expected to attend.

Mishpachah Am (Phoenix)—recently purchased a Czech Torah from England, where it had been housed for nearly two decades, before being recently renovated. The Torah dates to 1820; in 1938, it was torn from its Ark by Nazis, and then retrieved, stored and forgotten for 20 years.

Yachad (South Africa)—is planning its Purim "Masked Ball" for March 10. Proceeds from the event will be donated to South African AIDS organizations.

Synagogue Information

Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Officers:

President, Eric Keitel
Vice President, Robin Leonard
Treasurer, Ben Schalit
Recorder, Gail Friedlander

Va'ad (Board) Members:

Allan Berenstein
Leslie Bergson
Ann Biderman
Steve Greenberg
Merry Luskin
Jose Luis Moscovich
Alita Rosenfeld
Jonathan Schwartz
Dana Vinicoff

Committee Chairs:

Bikkur Cholim, Paul Cohen
Brotherhood, by committee
Building, Jeffrey Miller
Bylaws, Richard Inlander
Cemetery, Richard Inlander
Children's Chavurah, Lorraine Locke-Nacamulli & Judith Cohen
Cookbook Project, Sanford Friedman
Dinner Chavurah, Jerry Hipps
Education, by committee
Finance, Jerry Rosenstein
Israel Chavurah, Ron Lezell
Long-Range Planning, Tiela Chalmers & Daniel Chesir
Membership, Merry Luskin
Newsletter, Howard Blechman & Alita Rosenfeld
Oneg, Lin Turner
Past Presidents Council, Don Albert
Personnel, Irene Ogus
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslfsky
Religious School, David Gellman & Ida Kuluk

Ritual, by committee

Social Action, Jonathan Mesinger & Lisa Katz

Social Program, Marc Mencher

Spirituality Chavurah, Larry Wexler

Women's Chavurah, Ann Biderman

Office Personnel:

Manager, Jenny Helbraun

Secretary, Elizabeth McLachlan

Office Hours: Mon., Tue. 9–1; Wed, Thu, 9–5; Fri. 9–2.

Emergency Number: In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am — check calendar for each month.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

Member Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Richard Inlander, Mike Rankin, Liaisons) and World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Robin Leonard, Liaison).

Dr. Diane Sabin

CHIROPRACTOR

3892 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 415/826-8300

FEBRUARY

שָׁבָט-אָדָר

1 Thursday
6 Shevat
• 6:30 pm, Long-Range Planning Meeting, 67 Hoff St.

2 Friday
7 Shevat
• 7:30–8:05pm, Gift shop open
• 8:15pm, Services, Bo, Daniel Chesir and Winston Pickett, speaker

3 Saturday
8 Shevat
• 9:30am, Kadimah
• 10am, CSZ Mini-Advance at Fort Mason

4 Sunday
9 Shevat
• 2pm, Program on Aging Parents

5 Monday
10 Shevat

6 Tuesday
11 Shevat
• 7:30pm, Back to the Sources II
• 7:30pm, Introduction to Judaism I

7 Wednesday
12 Shevat
• 7:30pm Introduction to Judaism II

8 Thursday
13 Shevat
• 7:30pm, Torah chanting class, Berkeley Hillel, 845-6420

9 Friday
14 Shevat
• 7:30pm, Gift Shop open until 8:05pm
• 8:15pm, Services, Beshalach, Shabbat Shirah, Larry Wexler and Bill Schlichter

10 Saturday
15 Shevat
Tu B'Shevat
• Pre-school program—tentative
• 9:30am, Kadimah

11 Sunday
16 Shevat
• Tu B'Shevat tiyul (hike) with Israel Chavurah

12 Monday
17 Shevat
• 6:30pm, Va'ad Meeting
• 7:30–10pm, Gift Shop open

13 Tuesday
18 Shevat
• 7:30pm, Back to the Sources II
• 7:30pm, Introduction to Judaism I

14 Wednesday
19 Shevat
Valentine's Day
• 7:30pm, Introduction to Judaism II
• 7:30pm, Newsletter editing, 1711 Castro St.

15 Thursday
20 Shevat
• 7:30pm, Bikkur Cholim

16 Friday
21 Shevat
• 6:30pm, Children's Shabbat Dinner and Service, Ritual Committee, childcare available
• 7:30–8:05pm, Gift shop open
• 8:15pm, Services, Yitro, Rabbi Kahn and Dana Vinicoff

17 Saturday
22 Shevat
• 6:30pm, Women's Havdallah Potluck at Shelley's and Gabriele's, 2431 Burlington St., Oakland

18 Sunday
23 Shevat

19 Monday
24 Shevat
President's Day

20 Tuesday
25 Shevat
• 7:30pm, Back to the Sources, II
• 7:30pm, Introduction to Judaism I
• 7:30pm, Newsletter layout/proofing, 1711 Castro St.

21 Wednesday
26 Shevat
• 7:30pm, Introduction to Judaism II
• 7:30pm, Fiction Connection at Patio Restaurant on Castro Street

22 Thursday
27 Shevat
Washington's Birthday
• 6:30pm, Ritual Committee
• 7:30pm, Social Action Committee

23 Friday
28 Shevat
• 7:30–8:05pm, Gift shop open
• 8:15pm, Services, Mishpatim, Shabbat Shekalim, Torah service, Rabbi Kahn and Scott Mezistrano

24 Saturday
29 Shevat
• UAHC Social Action Weekend with Saperstein
• 9:30am, Kadimah
• 10:30am, Morning Services, Mishpatim, Shabbat Shekalim, Rabbi Kahn and Leslie Bergson
• 12:30pm, Ritual Committee all-day meeting, Church Street Gardens

25 Sunday
30 Shevat
• UAHC Social Action Weekend with Saperstein
• 10:30am, Kaiser Brunch, Kaiser Hospital, San Francisco

26 Monday
1 Adar
• 7–10pm, Gift Shop open
• 7:30pm, Education Comm.

27 Tuesday
2 Adar
• 7:30pm, Back to the Sources II
• 7:30pm, Introduction to Judaism I

28 Wednesday
3 Adar
• 7:30pm, Introduction to Judaism II

2 Friday, March 2
5 Adar
• 8:15pm, Services, Terumah, Tiela Chalmers and Leslie Bergson

PURIM!!

7:30 pm—Service and Megillah Reading

8:30 (or thereabouts)—Purim Masquerade Party

Saturday • March 10th • CSZ • 220 Danvers Street • SF • No charge

Free child care available with advance registration by March 1; call 861-6932

FEATURING SHA'AR ZAHAV'S OWN
MANTRA BEN YA'AKOV

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BOLSHEVIK CABARET

(an absolute *must* see)

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With our esteemed panel of Hamentashen judges:

Susan Unger, CSZ Cookbook Project Coordinator

Jesse Peskin-Hornstein, aspiring entrepreneur/owner of Bake, Rattle & Roll
Pastry Shop

And surprise judges!

So, don your party mask, do some baking, and join the fun!

1ST ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL ADVANCE PERSONALIZING PASSOVER

March 23, 24, and 25th, 1990

SINGLES

COUPLES

FAMILIES

Make plans to attend the 1st Annual Congregational Advance March 23-25th, 1990.

Everyone is invited!

Play tennis, softball or volleyball. Hike the many nature trails surrounding Camp Swig.

Come sing and dance. Folk dancing. Rock-N-Roll. (Break-dancing, if you want it!)

Shabbat worship. Discussion groups and more.

Explore Passover. Connect with our past and explore our future.

The Camp Swig Weekend is sponsored by the Adult Education and Religious School Committees.

If you would like more information contact Lin Turner through the Synagogue Office.

MUSIC

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FOOD

(Tear here and return to the Synagogue office before February 23rd)

(Registration Form)

Name: _____ Adult registration at \$80.00 No. _____

Address: _____ Children (13 to 18) at \$65.00 No. _____

_____ Children (6 to 12) at \$45.00 No. _____

_____ Children (3 to 5) at \$40.00 No. _____

_____ Children (2 and under) Free No. _____

Please enclose full payment with your registration form.

Telephone No. (Day) _____

If you have special skills or talents and would like to participate, please list.

(Evening) _____

Carpooling: Are you interested in driving your car? _____

Are you interested in carpooling with someone? _____

